

We Claim:

1. A method of inhibiting tumor cell growth or proliferation comprising administering an effective amount of (i) a regulatory T-cell having the phenotype CD3⁺αβ-TcR⁺CD4⁺CD8⁻CD44⁺CD28⁻NK1.1⁻; or (ii) an agent that can induce or activate the regulatory T-cell to an animal in need of such treatment.
2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the agent that can induce or activate the regulatory T cell is selected from cytokines, antigens and antibodies that bind the regulatory cells.
3. A method according to claim 1 comprising administering an effective amount of an antibody that stimulates a regulatory T cell having the phenotype CD3⁺αβ-TcR⁺CD4⁺CD8⁻CD44⁺CD28⁻NK1.1⁻.
4. A method according to claim 1 wherein the regulatory T cells are expanded or activated *in vitro* prior to administration by culturing the cells with IL-2 and IL-4.
5. A method according to claim 4 further comprising culturing the cells with one class I mismatched allogeneic lymphocytes.
6. A method according to claim 1 wherein the regulatory T cells are expanded or activated *in vitro* prior to administration by culturing the cells in the presence of an antigen.
7. A method according to claim 1 to treat or prevent cancer.
8. A method of inhibiting tumor cell growth comprising administering an effective amount of an Ly6A protein or a nucleic acid sequence encoding an Ly6A protein to an animal in need thereof.

9. A method according to claim 8 wherein the Ly6A protein is a soluble fusion protein.
10. A method of inhibiting tumor cell growth comprising administering an effective amount of an osteopontin or a nucleic acid sequence encoding an Ly6A protein to an animal in need thereof.
11. A method according to claim 10 wherein the osteopontin is a soluble fusion protein.